

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4136

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. BERA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Medi-  
5 care Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISED REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICARE INTEN-**  
2 **SIVE CARDIAC REHABILITATION PROGRAMS.**

3 Section 1861(eee)(4) of the Social Security Act (42  
4 U.S.C. 1395x(eee)(4)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

7 (i) by striking “physician-supervised  
8 program (as described in paragraph (2))”  
9 and inserting “program (supervised as de-  
10 scribed in paragraph (2) for cardiac reha-  
11 bilitation)”; and

12 (ii) by striking “, in peer-reviewed  
13 published research, that it accomplished”  
14 and inserting “in peer-reviewed published  
15 research specific to the exact program,  
16 that, notwithstanding other concurrent  
17 therapies, including prescription drugs, by  
18 lifestyle changes alone it accomplished”;

19 (B) in clause (i)—

20 (i) in subclause (I), by striking “posi-  
21 tively affected” and inserting “reversed”;

22 (ii) in subclause (II), by striking “or”  
23 and inserting “and”; and

24 (iii) by striking subclause (III);

25 (C) in clause (ii), in the matter preceding  
26 subclause (I), by inserting “both a statistically

1 significant increase in the measure of blood flow  
2 to the heart when compared to a control group  
3 and” before “a statistically significant”; and

4 (D) by adding at the end the following new  
5 sentence:

6 “Any program that the Secretary approved under this  
7 paragraph before the date of the enactment of the  
8 Strengthening Medicare Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation  
9 Programs Act as an intensive cardiac rehabilitation pro-  
10 gram according to the requirements under this subpara-  
11 graph as in effect before such date shall be deemed to  
12 meet the requirements under this subparagraph applied  
13 pursuant to the amendments made by such Act.”; and

14 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

15 (A) in clause (v), by striking at the end  
16 “or”;

17 (B) in clause (vi), by striking at the end  
18 the period; and

19 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
20 clauses:

21 “(vii) stable, chronic heart failure (defined  
22 as patients with left ventricular ejection fraction  
23 of 35 percent or less and New York Heart As-  
24 sociation (NYHA) class II to IV symptoms de-

1           spite being on optimal heart failure therapy for  
2           at least 6 weeks); or

3                   “(viii) any additional condition for which  
4           the Secretary has determined that a cardiac re-  
5           habilitation program shall be covered.”.

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